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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6265

BILL NUMBER: SB 180

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 6, 2012

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Higher Education Grading Practices and Faculty Organization.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Banks

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: *Grading:* This bill requires each state educational institution to provide the Commission for Higher Education with information concerning grading practices for courses that are required to fill general education requirements at the state educational institution, and the Commission to file an annual report of the information with the General Assembly.

Faculty: The bill requires the Commission to compile information from each campus of each state educational institution concerning faculty organizational structure for the campus. It requires the information to be made available to the public and presented to the Senate Education and Career Development Committee and the House Education Committee.

Effective Date: July 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Grading:* The Commission for Higher Education would be required to compile and report state educational institutions' grading practices to the General Assembly. The required information would only cover courses required to fill general education requirements and that have at least 25 students enrolled in the course. The data would include grade distributions for the same courses grouped by tenured faculty, faculty on tenure track, and contract instructors. The information must include data for the prior six years.

The Commission and state educational institution could incur some additional expense collecting and compiling the required information, but the cost is probably minor. The additional costs would probably be a one-time cost for computer programming to extract the data in the format required by the Commission.

Any additional expenses incurred by the Commission or state educational institution would be paid from their current revenue streams.

Faculty: The bill would require the Commission to collect data for state educational institutions on the institution's faculty structure. The Commission is required to compile the information not later than February 15, 2014, and electronically submit the report to the General Assembly and place the report on the Commission's website. The Commission and a representative of each state educational institution would also be required to present the report to a joint meeting of the House and Senate education committees on or before February 28, 2014.

The collection and compilation of the required information by the Commission and the state educational institutions can probably be done within current resources.

The information would include:

1. An organizational chart for the campus.
2. Number of faculty at the campus for each college or department.
3. Average and median years of experience and salaries of the faculty as a whole and for each faculty status group.
4. Percentage of courses taught at the campus by teaching assistants, instructors, adjunct professors, nontenured professors, and tenured professors for each of prior five years.
5. Description of the following processes:
 - a. Faculty hiring.
 - b. Faculty performance reviews and establishing salaries.
 - c. Grievance procedures.
 - d. Tenure policies.
 - e. Faculty governance.
6. Description of training and professional development opportunities for the faculty.
7. Campus sabbatical policy.
8. Revenue sources for funding the faculty at the campus and in each college and department.
9. Expectations of each faculty status group as to teaching load, faculty advising, and publication.
10. For research institutions, an explanation of how departments are structured to allow faculty to meet teaching and research expectations.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Commission for Higher Education; State educational institutions.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

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